

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP2004/013111

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G01N33/68

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G01N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, BIOSIS

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 99/38983 A (SMITHKLINE BEECHAM PLC) 5 August 1999 (1999-08-05) abstract page 12, paragraphs 1,2; claims 13,14,17 page 1, paragraph 4	2, 4
A	WO 02/22078 A (ATAIRGIN TECHNOLOGIES, INC) 21 March 2002 (2002-03-21) the whole document -/-	1-12

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
- * & * document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

28 April 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

11/05/2005

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	ZHOU J AND SABA J: "Identification of the First Mammalian Sphingosine Phosphate Lyase Gene and Its Functional Expression in Yeast" BIOCHEMICAL AND BIOPHYSICAL RESEARCH COMMUNICATIONS, ACADEMIC PRESS INC. ORLANDO, FL, US, vol. 242, 1998, pages 502-507, XP002097301 ISSN: 0006-291X the whole document	1-12
X	WO 99/16888 A (CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OAKLAND RESEARCH INSTITUTE; CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL ME) 8 April 1999 (1999-04-08) abstract page 22, paragraphs 1,2; claim 48	1,3,6,7, 10-12
A	SOREGHAN BRIAN ET AL: "Aberrant sphingomyelin/ceramide metabolic-induced neuronal endosomal/lysosomal dysfunction: Potential pathological consequences in age-related neurodegeneration." ADVANCED DRUG DELIVERY REVIEWS, vol. 55, no. 11, 14 November 2003 (2003-11-14), pages 1515-1524, XP002326245 ISSN: 0169-409X the whole document	1-12

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Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

Although claims 7.8 are directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this International application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP2004/013111

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9938983	A	05-08-1999	WO 9938983 A1	05-08-1999
			EP 1060256 A1	20-12-2000
			JP 2002501751 T	22-01-2002
			US 6187562 B1	13-02-2001
			US 2002168710 A1	14-11-2002
WO 0222078	A	21-03-2002	US 6448023 B1	10-09-2002
			AU 9094601 A	26-03-2002
			WO 0222078 A2	21-03-2002
			US 2002127628 A1	12-09-2002
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			EP 1027443 A2	16-08-2000
			JP 2001518303 T	16-10-2001
			US 2003175939 A1	18-09-2003
			WO 9916888 A2	08-04-1999
			US 2003166897 A1	04-09-2003
			US 2003059922 A1	27-03-2003
			US 6569666 B1	27-05-2003
			US 6495359 B1	17-12-2002